KANSAS CITY
DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 7, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The purpose of this letter is to emphatically support the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant application for multi-modal connections to Kansas City's Berkley Riverfront. The Downtown Neighborhood Association represents a constituency of downtown residents within the River Market and Central Business District portions of Downtown Kansas City, MO. The project is important to our members because:

- More riverfront business, retail, and recreational opportunities connected by better transit, bike, and pedestrian options improve the sustainability of our neighborhood downtown.
- Easier access to the Riverfront recreational, event, and park amenities improves the livability of our neighborhood downtown.

KC-CORE is a superb example of local government teamwork operating at a peak level with the Kansas City Streetcar Authority (KCSA), Port Authority of Kansas City, MO (Port KC), the City of Kansas City, Missouri (the city) and the grant applicant – the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA / RideKC) teaming up to provide direct financial support to deliver this highly anticipated, three-quarter-mile extension of the KC Streetcar. Port KC continues to partner with private developers who are building projects on the Berkley Riverfront and have willingly included large, seven-figure construction-triggered lump sum payments in their development agreements to supplement the local agencies' funding.

KC-CORE supports the long-term national goals that have been established by the BUILD grant program and the call for Public Private Partnerships (P3) by the Trump Administration. In developing this, the Team has demonstrated a "can-do" attitude in all of its efforts and has been unwaveringly committed to an accelerated expansion of the successful 2016 RideKC Streetcar. KC-Core meets the BUILD goals for significant regional impact and will continue to be successful for generations. Our organization strongly recommends that you select the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority's BUILD grant application to join the ranks of previously approved TIGER projects. This project is an ideal candidate to earn the privilege of becoming a part of this vital national infrastructure program. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Jared Campbell
President
Downtown Neighborhood Association